

story of the headless horseman or a bloated bureaucracy, a hollow military force and more tax increases.

Mr. Speaker, no one wants to go home with the liberals' view of Congress. Rather, we all want to go home with some great news for America's schoolchildren, for America's hard-working families, for the men and women who serve in our nation's armed forces, news that we are working for them, not some fat-cat bureaucrat here in Washington.

To my liberal colleagues, I say this: Let us put an end to wasteful bureaucratic spending. Help us send Federal education dollars directly to the schools and to the classrooms for the benefit of educating children. Help us give back hard-earned tax dollars to America's hardworking families. Help us make the strength of our nation and our national defense a priority again.

Trick or treat, Mr. Speaker. I yield back big government, scary stories, and the headless horseman point of view of my liberal colleagues.

SUPPORT STEEL RESOLUTION AND STAND UP FOR LEGAL TRADE

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, another chapter on American steel. We have already read Chapter 11, Chapter 13, and we are about to read a stone cold Chapter 7 due to illegal trade, dumping steel in America below cost, destroying families, destroying companies, destroying jobs, destroying pensions, and nobody is doing one thing about it.

We pass laws here, and the law is not being enforced. There is such a glut of steel there is a fire sale in America. America is burning. And while America burns, the administration is fiddling doing nothing.

Today you will have an opportunity to vote on a resolution. I predict that there will be an attempt to bring a softer resolution than mine. Today is the time to stand up for legal trade.

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the majority of Republicans are conservative and they are proud of that. The majority of Democrats are liberal and I imagine that they are proud of that as well. One can only imagine what the liberals dream about in their private moments, the number of new government programs they could create if only those Republicans were not standing in the way.

Republicans believe that the country has been going in the wrong direction for far too long, down the road of higher taxes, more government and less freedom. Democrats disagree. They

favor a continuation down this path, and the current negotiations with the White House and with the other side of the aisle over the appropriations bill clearly reflect that. In almost every single case the dispute reflects the Republican desire to hold the line on spending and the Democrat desire to increase it. Although most Americans appear to support less government and lower taxes, you would never know it listening to the other side of the aisle in these negotiations. Spend more or spend less? The choice is clear.

SUPPORT TRAFICANT REAL STEEL RESOLUTION

(Mr. VISCLOSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, we have a crisis in steel that my colleague from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) just alluded to. I want to thank the leadership of this House for promising the gentleman from Ohio that we would have a vote on his resolution today, a real steel resolution with real language, real teeth, and I ask every one of my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution introduced by the gentleman from Ohio, House Resolution 598. It is the resolution I am personally going to support.

We need this, because H. Res. 598 calls for a 10-day review period for all steel imports and a 1-year ban on steel imports from countries found to be violating our law, not 3 months of consultation.

We need this, because the American Institute for International Steel has written to every one of its members and said that because of cases filed on September 30, the earliest date for withholding of liquidations would be December 9.

Translation: Dump your steel before December 9 or it will be too late. Vote for Traficant.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF REPUBLICAN-LED CONGRESS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, for 40 years Washington was on autopilot and heading in one direction and one direction only, toward higher taxes and bigger government. Republicans were elected to a majority in 1994 and things have been different ever since, despite the efforts of the President to raise taxes, to create new government programs and to expand old ones. Republicans passed middle-class tax cuts, welfare reform, IRS reform, and Medicare reform.

Let us just consider for a moment if any of these achievements, even a single one, would have seen the light of day if the liberal Democrats had still been in the majority. Welfare reform? The liberals are still bitter about that.

Tax cuts? They tried to raise taxes, not cut them. IRS reform? Now, why would a liberal ever want to take on his best friend? Medicare reform? This is perhaps the most unlikely proposition of them all. Any effort to reform Medicare was greeted with hysterical cries of extremism by liberal defenders of the status quo in this very body.

No, Mr. Speaker, not a single one of these achievements could have been possible were it not for a Republican majority in Congress.

HONORING WALTER KOHN AND AMERICA'S TEACHERS

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, with great pride I rise to congratulate Dr. Walter Kohn, a recent recipient of the Nobel prize for chemistry. Dr. Kohn is a professor of physics at the University of California at Santa Barbara where my husband Walter taught for over 30 years. Walter Kohn's life story is inspirational. He escaped Nazi-occupied Germany on the last children's transport train to England. Dr. Kohn's contributions to chemistry and physics are immense, and he also contributes greatly to our society as a teacher and role model for young people.

As we honor our Nobel winners, let us remember the priceless values of teachers in our country. Motivated, well-trained teachers are the heart and soul of our schools.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that Congress will soon pass a budget bill that will provide our local school districts with the capable teachers that they need to educate our children. I strongly support more teachers. I am glad we have put partisanship aside to invest in the future of our nation.

REPUBLICAN-LED CONGRESS IGNORES CRIES OF "EXTREMISM" TO PASS MEANINGFUL REFORMS

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, most Americans do not think it is extremist to want to reduce the size and power of the Federal Government. In fact after 40 years of Democratic control in which the Federal Government got bigger and bigger, more costly, more out of touch, more meddlesome and less accountable to the people, the majority of Americans finally had had enough in 1994 and they have not looked back since.

What has the Republican majority in Congress done since 1995 to reverse course? A Republican-led Congress passed the first balanced budget since 1969 and the first tax cuts in 16 years after it ignored the charges of extremism and warnings that it could not be done. A Republican-led Congress passed

welfare reform after years of hearing the other side defend a system that everybody knew was broken, again after ignoring the other side cry "extremism" at every opportunity. And a Republican-led Congress reformed Medicare for the first time ever, something that should have been done a long time ago, so that our seniors would be able to retire with peace of mind.

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I think the American people are right. It is not extremist, but responsible good government.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A REPUBLICAN CONGRESS HAS MADE

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, let us look back at where we were just four short years ago.

Deficits were headed up to \$300 billion. Millions of Americans were being trapped in a welfare cycle. Medicare was headed towards bankruptcy, and that was threatening seniors' health care. Billions were being wasted on Washington programs that were unnecessary or ineffective. Interest rates were too high, and our economy was teetering, and taxes on families were going up and up and up.

Mr. Speaker, let us look at where we are today.

Deficits no longer exist. We have balanced the budget. We have taken 2 million families off of welfare rolls and put them on payrolls. Medicare is solvent. Three hundred programs have been eliminated here in Washington. Interest rates have dropped by over 2 percent, and taxes on families is going down.

Mr. Speaker, what a difference a Republican Congress has made.

WE MUST HAVE SCHOOL MODERNIZATION AND QUALITY EDUCATION

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to come here this morning and deliver a message, but in following the discussion that we have had on education in the last several days, particularly really for a lifetime as being a former teacher, I saw the opportunity now that we are going to have in improving our classrooms certainly by increasing the number of teachers, and it brought a story to mind that happened to me in 1970 when I was transferred to one of the high schools in which I taught.

Within the first week, as I tried to raise the blinds of one of the windows, the window shade fell off the wall and cut my face on my cheek. I noticed that 2 weeks later when it began to rain the walls leaked, the roofs leaked,

and water ran down the side of the walls, and the children had to be evacuated from some of the classrooms in which they were.

I could not teach. The children were there to learn, but they were so distracted by their surroundings that they were not focused.

We have to give our children an opportunity for a better future, and that is going to be through a quality education. We know we are going to have more teachers now. That is going to be in this budget. Thank goodness for that. Now we need the classrooms to put them in, good, quality classrooms to do it.

Mr. Speaker, we must have school modernization. We must pass that in this particular bill in this Congress now. Let us do it before we leave.

FROM DEFICITS TO SURPLUSES—WHAT THE VOTERS SHOULD REMEMBER WHEN THEY GO TO THE POLLS

(Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, late last night the Republican Congress and the Democrat President arrived at an agreement on the Nation's spending plan.

Now our disagreement up to this time has delayed our adjournment by 6 days now. What were we arguing about, one might ask. Well, Mr. Speaker, we were debating the merits of spending a budget surplus.

Now before we get on to details of the spending, let us talk about this surplus. See, Mr. Speaker, were it not for the Republican Congress, we would still be debating the travesties of deficit spending. But today we are not. And that is what Americans should keep in mind. From deficits to surpluses, from runaway spending to lower spending, from higher taxes to lower taxes, from bondage to liberty. That is what happened when control of this Congress went from Democrat to Republican, and that is what voters should remember when they go next month from their homes to the polls.

CONGRESS' UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, good morning. I would like to talk about Congress' unfinished business.

My colleagues on the other side rattle when we say it has been a do-nothing Congress, but it has been. We really have not addressed the big issues, the concerns that people in America want to see resolved by Congress. They have failed to achieve anything on tobacco reform. Thousands of our young people will die as a result. They have failed to do anything about HMO reform. Pa-

tient after patient, seniors across the spectrum, have said we need to reform HMOs to give patients a bill of rights. The Republicans have not delivered they fail to achieve. We know the biggest problem facing our country is Social Security. What are we going to do about it? Again, this do-nothing Congress, these under-achievers, have failed to address the real problem. We need to save the surplus and put it into saving Social Security. They want to give an election year tax break. It is a gimmick.

But most importantly, Mr. Speaker, I think they fail to address the problem of our future in terms of education and school construction. We need modern classrooms, we need to invest in education, we need to solve the overcrowding problem, and they have not done it.

TWO CRITICAL ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

(Mr. GEJDENSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, the President and the people of this country have forced this do-nothing Congress to take some actions, and we have begun a process of dealing with issues they have avoided for 2 years. But there are two critical issues that still are not addressed.

One is fixing the pensions of people in our Armed Services to make sure that they get a decent retirement so we can keep quality people in the Armed Services. The second affects almost every American, and that is HMO reform.

Mr. Speaker, seniors are losing their HMOs as they hop from city to city trying to get only healthy seniors. Every citizen who has to deal with their doctor or hospital is frightened that their HMO will not pay the bill or will not allow them to get service. Hospitals and doctors and patients are being run by people who have never seen the patient and never seen the inside of a medical facility. These people are in danger physically.

This Republican Congress has to address these two issues. There are others, but certainly the life and death of our constituents, the viability of our hospitals, is something we ought not to be able to ignore.

THIS IS NOT A DO-NOTHING CONGRESS

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I am often amused when I hear Democrats say this is a do-nothing Congress. What they mean is we have done nothing towards increasing the taxes, we have done nothing towards increasing the size of government, and then nothing to further destroy the American dream which they seem to be so intent on.